



Naval Medical Research and Development

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News Releases

Naval Medical Research Center 2016 Junior Officer of the Year

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From Naval Medical Research Center Public Affairs



The Naval Medical Research Center recently named Lt. Joshua Swift as the Junior Officer of the Year 2016

SILVER SPRING, Md. – The Junior Officer of the Year (JOOY) program is an opportunity for military officers to be recognized for their contributions to the command research mission and their commitment to leadership and professionalism as a Naval Officer. The Naval Medical Research Center (NMRC) recently named Lt. Joshua Swift as the Junior Officer of the Year for 2016.

He serves as Deputy Department Head of Operational and Undersea Medicine (OUMD) at NMRC, and assists in directing 20 military researchers, civilian scientists, guest researchers and contract personnel. He is also a very productive research scientist leading several cutting-edge projects on altitude stress.

“He embodies the Navy core values of Honor, Courage and Commitment, and he leads by example every day. In addition to working directly with the Command on several high visibility collateral duties, he is equally involved outside of the command in leadership positions,” said Cmdr. Carl Goforth, OUMD Deputy Director.

Swift epitomizes the uniformed Navy researcher community, combining excellent research and stalwart leadership as a military officer. On a daily basis, he displays flexibility and ingenuity, with insightful planning and execution of operationally relevant military research, overcoming both research and administrative barriers.

“Upon arrival in our department, Swift quickly raised our already high standards for scientific quality,” said Cmdr. Hugh Dainer, Department Head of Undersea Medicine. “He is extremely giving of his time with junior personnel, and truly cares about developing their skills as scientific technologists and researchers.”

Continuously striving for both personal and professional improvement, he is an avid runner and regularly competes in marathons. Swift competed in three marathons (Rock ‘n’ Roll DC Marathon, Erie Marathon, Marine Corps Marathon, and one 50-mile trail race (Stone Mill 50-mile Endurance Run; finished 18 out of 253 runners) during 2016. He also qualified and will be running in the 2017 Boston Marathon.

“I am extremely humbled to be chosen as the JOOY for NMRC. There are many very talented officers at NMRC who also are deserving of this award,” said Swift. “I joined the Navy because I wanted to make a difference in the lives of those Sailors, Soldiers, Airmen, and Marines that serve on the front lines to protect our country. The best way for us to help those service members is through the significant research efforts we are doing here at NMRC and throughout the enterprise,” he added.

In preparation for choosing the JOOY, a panel of Directors and Senior Leaders reviewed three

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candidates from an incredibly competitive field, with equally impressive packages. In addition to Swift, Lt. Brian J Morrison, Infectious Disease Directorate, and Lt. Cmdr. Dustin J Harrison, Biological Defense Research Directorate, were chosen as potential candidates for JOOY.

“All three of these officers represent the very best of the Navy Medicine and Research community, and are all outstanding Naval officers,” said Capt. Jacqueline Rychnovsky, commanding officer, NMRC.

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